# The Centenary of Duke Memorial Church

A PORTRAIT OF

*Duke Memorial United Methodist Church*

*1975–1986*

BY

Thomas A. and Ann Marie D. Langford

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# *Preface*

One hundred years old! That is the age of Duke Memorial United Methodist Church in 1986. To have survived so long and so well is an achievement that deserves a time for remembrance, an occasion for celebration, and an opportunity to prepare for the future. The primary history of the church was prepared by Wyatt T. Dixon and published in 1977. That account tells the story of Methodism, beginning with John Wesley, and describes the life of this church from its founding until 1976. For our centennial birthday, we provide an account that continues the story of a living community of faith through the last decade.

History is ongoing; one year flows into another: there are no neat divisions, no simple points of beginning and ending. The life of a single institution—Duke Memorial—is a small part of a larger whole; it represents only a segment of any person's life or of larger historical movements. But the life of this church when it stands alone is important. This congregation plays a significant role in the lives of its membership as it worships God and shares God's mission in our community and in the world.

Writing a history of a church is much like painting a portrait. Styles vary; presentations reflect the painter's peculiar intention. Our history reflects our style. We make no attempt to provide a photograph, a complete description with all of the details. Rather we hope to present enough suggestive detail to reveal the life, the spirit, and the character of Duke Memorial. We have quickly learned, writing history is not so much putting *facts* together, it is *putting* facts together; it is providing a structure in which facts are interpreted. We select particular events and facts or people and dates to suggest the features, the vitality, the anguish, and the promise of this congregation. This is a particular view; we hope it provokes your reflection about our church, its history, its meaning.

A centennial celebration is occasion for an updated portrait. The church in her maturity exhibits a developed character, a gracious demeanor, and a stately posture which both expresses and belies her age. We hope you will recognize this church and her people in this portrayal.

One hundred years old, we recall our recent past and pause to remember and to recoup strength. One hundred years old, we look ahead to meet our future with a clearer sense of responsibility and with refreshed hope.

# Chapter I

## *Connections*

The reach of time extends both to the past and to the future. Before we consider the last decade of Duke Memorial's history, we must take a quick glance backward.

A good place to begin is a story from Maude Dunn's (1885–1985) oral history as recorded by the Reverend Mr. Robert L. Wallace. Mrs. Dunn tells the story of our church's beginning.

> Mr. Washington Duke was at our house one day and he said—my Mother told me that he said to my Father, "We've got to build another Church." The factory was just beginning to go and people were moving in here. From just a mere nothing but a store or two beside the road, it was beginning to become quite a town. So Papa said, "We have Trinity Church." Mr. Duke said, "Yes, but we've got to have one for the masses." So they began, and Main Street Church was built.

A church "for the masses," Duke Memorial was born in mission; its intention spanned the city of Durham and the world. Although this goal has always been beyond our reach, our history records the moments and efforts when this mission has been freshly envisioned. It is significant that the main windows of the church depict Jesus looking over Jerusalem, John Wesley preaching at his home town of Epworth, and Mary sitting at the city well. This church—Main Street, which would become Duke Memorial—was a church with a special responsibility for this city, for this whole city, "for the masses."

> "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem," Jesus cried (Matthew 23:37).
> "O Epworth, Epworth," John Wesley called in 1742.
> "O Durham, Durham," Duke Memorial has reiterated for one hundred years.

Duke Memorial has a very specific mission in a very specific place for a very specific people. The church's twin towers are like two arms stretching up to offer invitation and benediction to the city of Durham.

A church "for the masses" was envisioned. A mission which was to include an entire city, a mission which cuts across economic, educational, social, racial, and ethnic distinctions. At different times in its history, the congregation has had to confront a variety of these issues. The decades of the 1970s and the 1980s have required this church to struggle to find its identity in a changing city and to find its special responsibilities among changing needs.

Perhaps the Council on Ministries' statements of goals help set the agenda both for this church's mission and for our historical accounting. First, a statement from 1979.

*OBJECTIVES:*

I. FAITH—GENESIS AND NURTURE IN CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

*Goals*:

1. Rededication to discipleship, both personal and corporate, by calling every person in our congregation to make concrete commitments as a disciple.
2. Wednesday (?) night at Duke Memorial every week; e.g., supper, fellowship, education, fun, work, worship, music, planning, meetings, etc.
3. Neighborhood discipleship groups.
4. Preceding or during Lent, have a prayer weekend plus 6-week follow-up.
5. Discipleship is loving (weekly expressions during Lent).
6. Year-long emphasis on meaning and value of Christian Education throughout the Church School.
7. Year-long assimilation and twice a year orientation for new members.
8. Regular informal Sunday evening worship service in the Sanctuary.
9. Church-wide mission area and Bible studies.

II. WORKS—EXPRESSING FAITH THROUGH LOVING SERVICE

*Goals*:

1. That Duke Memorial become a full member of Durham Churches in Action in 1980.
2. To have 20 Duke Memorial members involved in the Meals on Wheels program by July 1, 1980.

3. In early autumn 1980 to establish a "Duke Memorial Homes for Duke Students" program.
4. To encourage Duke Memorial members to invite Duke students to share Thanksgiving in our homes and church.
5. Sponsor year-long emphasis on home security and house identification.
6. Investigate assisting in relocation of a Southeast Asian family.
7. Help church members reach out beyond Durham with a whole-church work team to Robeson County, and youth work team to Appalachia.

Another statement is from 1985:

Duke Memorial is a caring and sharing church. We are an outreach church. We do many good things in our community and in the world. But there are many other needs we would like to meet. At the planning retreat for 1986, the Council on Ministries dreamed dreams of increased program development and activity, particularly in the areas of youth, new members, and Bible study. Our optimism continues with the hope that when you know what can be done, you will search your hearts and respond with the financial support and the personal involvement needed for these programs.

1. The Education work area has increased need for leadership development and for summer camp.
2. Evangelism is expanding with its emphasis on new members and our shut-in or homebound members. Some of these added expenses are for: fruit baskets twice a year, new member luncheons, Bible Study honorariums.
3. Faith and Arts continues adding to our fine collection of reproductions but would also like to provide pictures for the Urban Ministries Building and establish an art lending library for our shut-ins.
4. Missions needs a larger budget to provide supplies and mailings to our two missionary families. They would also like to send three members on a work team and support SEJUMVIM [Southeastern Jurisdiction United Methodist Volunteers in Mission] programs.
5. Social Concerns can become more involved with the Methodist Food Closet, DCIA [Durham Churches in Action], and Meals on Wheels if we can increase their budget.
6. Recreation is a newly created area planning retreats to Camp Don Lee and Lake Junaluska.

   Edith Toms, Chairman
   Council on Ministries

These statements make clear that our general mission has remained the same, although particular tasks have changed. Christian responsibility means sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, but the sharing of this good

news takes different forms in different settings. Our gospel remains the same. But Durham has changed radically in the past century. The presentation of the Christian message—as faithfully done by Duke Memorial—has also changed. An account of the last decade indicates the variety of ways in which this church has interpreted its mission.

Evangelism, social concerns, and missions (as mentioned in the 1985 Council on Ministry statement) continue as prominent themes. Faith and Arts is a new emphasis and reflects an added arena for cultivation of spiritual life. The past molds the present even as the present refashions the past.

Changes in lay leadership, transition in ministerial leadership, efforts at self-understanding, new crises, and persisting challenges mark the ebb and flow of the history we relate. The next chapters attempt to record these movements in the ongoing life of this congregation from 1975 to 1986 and to incorporate some events which were not included in the previous church history.

# Chapter II

## *A Sequence of Time*

Moments of surge and times of relaxation characterize every congregation's life. Causes of stirrings and repose are deeply rooted in the dynamics of individual and corporate life and, most profoundly, reflect the breath of the Spirit.

In a congregation's life, the presence of ministerial leadership helps to energize, direct, motivate and shape the mission and character of a local church. These qualities are reflected in the ministers of Duke Memorial; especially those of the last decade:

Charles Spence Hubbard ..... 1971-1975
Robert Louis Wallace (Associate) ..... 1974-1978
Edward Franklin Smith, Jr. ..... 1975-1982
Donald Thomas Settle (Associate) ..... 1979-1980
William Augustus Haddock, Jr. (Associate) ..... 1980-1982
Tommy Martin Faggart ..... 1982-1986
Richard Burke Haverly, Jr. (Associate) ..... 1983-1986
Ellen Hope Metcalf (Associate) ..... 1984-
Richard Thomson Commander ..... 1986-
Roderic Lynn Mullen (Associate) ..... 1986-

Such a roll call rekindles awareness of pastoral care, celebrations of marriage, visits in hospitals and homes, baptisms, sermons, service, friendly meals, trips, prayers, and gifts of love and hope.

The decade began as Charles S. Hubbard was concluding his tenure. Charles Hubbard possessed a strong sense of self, a wry and constant sense of humor. He was direct, confident, and willing to try new things such as a senior citizens' day care center, local inner city mission, reorganization of staff, working with world hunger, and focus on mission. He was a special

friend to the poor who came to the church for help. He gave and he encouraged others to give freely to the Good Samaritan Fund.

As an astute businessman, he was in no way threatened by those within the congregation who might have been tempted to use the giving or withholding of funds as leverage in decisions. His was a freedom that set him apart. In May 1983, he returned as the Homecoming preacher, on which occasion he laughingly elected not to wear a troublesome part of his dentures. The act was typical of this relaxed man.

Mercer, Charles' wife, applied her interest in horticulture to establish the herb garden in the botanical garden in Chapel Hill. It seems natural that the Hubbards retired to a comfortable, country home in Chatham County, yet continue their service to area Methodist churches and the botanical garden in Chapel Hill.

A statement by the church in 1975 sums up the congregation's appreciation.

Resolution Honoring Charles Spence Hubbard

WHEREAS, The Reverend Charles Spence Hubbard is completing four years as Senior Minister at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church and is retiring this June after thirty-seven years in the active Ministry, and

WHEREAS, during his pastorate at Duke Memorial he has provided effective and able leadership as Preacher, Administrator and Counselor, and

WHEREAS, he has made an outstanding contribution to the life of Duke Memorial as Teacher of the Open Door Class, and

WHEREAS, he has throughout his thirty-seven years as Minister been a strong Christian witness and given clear moral leadership in local Church and Conference affairs, and

WHEREAS, he has been involved in and has made a significant contribution to Conservation and Recreation in North Carolina and the nation, and

WHEREAS, he has maintained a lifelong concern for, interest in, and commitment to educational opportunities for young people,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Administrative Board of Duke Memorial United Methodist Church in regular session, does hereby give thanks to God for Charles Spence Hubbard and the Ministry into which Christ called him and further, that this Board expresses its gratitude and love to Charles Spence Hubbard and assures him of its continuing esteem for him and extends to him every good wish for an enjoyable retirement.

From 1974 to 1978, Robert Louis Wallace served as the Associate Minister of Duke Memorial and brought a distinctive service of significant pastoral care and effective teaching to the church. Of quiet personal strength, Bob's good judgment made him a valuable counselor and provided an undergirding of the congregation's life. With his wife, Chris, Bob exhibited support for family life, an interest in the arts, and a clear sense of the church's task.

Bob also began recording Duke Memorial's oral church history. In the preface to the notebook of transcribed tapes, he writes,

> This oral history project was prompted by four stimuli:
> 1) conversations with Mrs. Cliff Shoaf (Jane), member of Duke Memorial who was promoting the development and appreciation of the oral history concept . . . ;
> 2) a resurgence of interest at Duke Memorial during the mid-to-late seventies in preserving and communicating historical memories and records related to the congregation's past;
> 3) a sense that history is continuously being made, therefore the voices and events of the present would likely be of interest and significance to persons in the future, and
> 4) the realization that persons who could remember the early life of Duke Memorial were diminishing.

His interviews include conversations with Irving Allen, Miss Margaret Martin, and Mrs. Maude Dunn. Associate Minister Reverend William A. Haddock continued the oral history by interviewing and recording conversations with Mrs. Sara Barker, Mrs. Elizabeth Dickson, Leroy and Mrs. Elsie Graham, W. E. Whitford, Wyatt Dixon, and William W. Poythress.

In addition to his work in the church, Bob Wallace also taught a practical ministry seminar at Duke Divinity School and was recognized for his skill in the guidance and development of new ministers. The contributions he made at Duke Memorial were characterized by his nurturing spirit and ability to encourage growth.

Attentive to the geographical context of the church, Bob led the church in urban ministry activity, encouraged ecumenical service in downtown Durham, and developed outreach programs. Strongly impressed by Bob's example, the congregation has incorporated in its program many of the ideals he envisioned.

Edward F. Smith, Jr. was the next senior minister and led the church into the present decade. Tall, Lincolnesque, motivated by a missionary spirit that continued beyond his early tenure in Africa, he was often found standing

beside his wife, Janet. Ed was thoughtful, careful of the needs of parishioners, a preacher who used his African experience as illustrations in his Sunday sermons, steady, faithful, seldom away from the church. Recognizing the place of women in ministry, he brought perhaps the first ordained woman to the Duke Memorial pulpit. She was his daughter-in-law, Helen Steiner Smith, a graduate of Duke Divinity School and a member of the Baltimore Conference.

Janet, Ed's wife, was active in mission, prayer, and Bible study groups. Her consistent presence at church meetings and regular occasions bolstered the strength of Ed's ministry to Duke Memorial.

In 1976, Duke Memorial participated in the bicentennial of North Carolina Methodism. Two hundred years earlier the first Methodist circuit rider came to the Carolinas. On April 3, the two annual conferences in the state joined together at Duke University for a day-long celebration of the event. Duke Memorial prepared a handsome needlepoint banner for the procession into the indoor stadium. The banner, still used in the church, depicts Washington Duke, the seals of Duke University and the City of Durham, a front view of the church, and a replication of the Wesley Window. Now, ten years later, with awakened awareness of Methodist beginnings and its ensuing history, Duke Memorial celebrates its centennial. Our special history, set within this larger history, has reached a milestone of its own.

In April 1976, the church began the *Duke Memorial Messenger.* The mimeographed *Messenger* reported on the activities of the church and its members. In addition, the Council on Ministries became more involved in planning for church service projects and programs. World hunger was coming into sharp focus as a special responsibility and the church, under the leadership of the ministers, was quickly responsive. Contact Ministries, a local telephone service of help, became a new program to support. Allyn S. Norton was instrumental in getting the people of Duke Memorial involved as trained volunteers and in eliciting their financial support. The program continues as Contact Teleministry and maintains a twenty-four hour telephone crisis center.

On May 2, 1976, the morning worship service was titled "History Day" in honor and thanksgiving for the pastors and people of Duke Memorial's history. The service was recorded on cassette tape and later transcribed. The text is included in our church library collection. The needlepoint banner depicting Duke Memorial's history and celebrating the bicentennial of Methodism in North Carolina was presented to the congregation by Pat Coman (Mrs. W. T.), President of United Methodist Women, Edith Toms (Mrs.

Edgar, Jr.), and Caroline Dixon (Mrs. Wyatt T. Jr.). The banner represents hundreds of hours of meticulous planning and handwork and is usually displayed in the Margaret Faw Cannon Library.

Comments made during dinner on the grounds sum up the day's events. "Bob [Wallace], this was your's and Ed Smith's day. Without what you two have done for Duke Memorial today, we could not have been here to enjoy this wonderful day. [Who would have thought] that old staid downtown church would be able to get together like this and let our hair down and applaud and clap in the service and get out here and have a picnic on the grounds . . . this church will never fail" (William T. Coman).

"Well I think it's a great day in the history of the church and I think a lot of the people comment we ought to have an annual homecoming" (Randolph R. Few).

Homecoming was thus renewed and has been celebrated annually each May since its new beginning in 1976.

Of special importance is the church's participation in Durham Churches in Action (which was originally the Center City Church Council that began in the mid-seventies). United Methodist Women contributed to the Council profits from its Fall Festival. Volunteers from the church supported the programs, especially Meals on Wheels. A church van, long a hoped-for dream, was purchased in 1977 after J. A. McLean and Nicholas B. Fagan led a sustained effort by a remarkably large group of interested people, including R. L. Forrester, Virginia Clark (Mrs. Word C.), Ginger Clark, Herschel Caldwell, Marty Pifer, Ran Few, Mike Herman, and Carol and Gary Lawrence.

International contacts have been kept alive by an impressive array of speakers:

Of Czechoslovakia, Professor Petr Pokorny from Prague (1976)
Of Chile, Bishop Raymond Valenzuela (1977)
Of Austria, Dr. Helmut Nausner, Superintendent of the Vienna District, The United Methodist Church (1983, 1985)
Of Argentina, Professor Jose Miguez Bonino, one of the Presidents of the World Council of Churches (1984).

The Faith and Arts Committee was established in 1980 with Martha DeBerry (Mrs. Arthur) as its first chair. This committee represented a new thrust of congregational activity. It continues to hang many reproductions of fine paintings throughout the church and educational buildings.

During Advent in 1984, a special collection of Madonna paintings was displayed in Whitford Hall. In 1985, artists' interpretations of Lenten sub-

jects were on show throughout the church. Explanatory tags provided historical and interpretative commentary for each work. The committee has also highlighted particular works with an interpretation in the *Messenger* or the church bulletin of a piece that is to be exhibited in the narthex on Sunday morning.

Liturgical dance and programs on music history for Sunday School and circle meetings have also been a part of the committee's efforts in developing "a deeper understanding and fuller experience of our Christian heritage through artistic and creative expression." This program in the arts is a unique development that has enhanced the life of our church.

Serving as an associate to Edward Smith, for the year 1979-80, was Donald T. Settle. Young, reserved, and self-confident, Don came as a student intern and then continued to serve as a full-time staff member. Especially responsible for youth work, he coordinated several activities for the young people. The appointment of Donald Settle represented an effort on the part of the church to serve its full constituency. Don was assigned the task of trying to form Duke Memorial's widely scattered membership into neighborhood groups for nurture and study. The groups allowed a means of getting to know individuals, as Tom Faggart discovered when he was first appointed to Duke Memorial in 1982.

To remember the staff during this era is to recall the presence of Margaret Anne Biddle who served as Director of Christian Education from 1976 until 1982. A warm, embracing person who worked with enthusiasm, Margaret Anne was always present. Her lively programs and youth meetings earned her the admiration of the young people. Margaret Anne added significantly to the ministry of the church to its own members. Her leadership of a youth work team to Appalachia along with Harry and Dorris Rodenhizer illustrates the scope of her commitment.

From 1980 to 1982, William A. Haddock, Jr. was the Associate Minister. A native of eastern North Carolina and a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Duke University Divinity School, Bill quickly became a part of the congregation's life and identified with the people in the church. His warm personality and a relaxed manner of interacting underwrote the distinctive character of Bill's ministry. A good pastor, he related well to people of various ages and provided steady spiritual support. After his move during the conference year to serve as senior minister of another church, the congregation experienced a keen sense of loss.

Many important programs were initiated and continued during the four years of Ed Smith's tenure. One example was the popular men's prayer

breakfast on Sunday mornings that he organized and cooked for. Although it did not flourish in terms of increased membership, Duke Memorial entered the decade of the eighties with careful, if not long, strides.

Tommy M. Faggart succeeded Ed Smith as senior minister for four years of active service. Mr. Faggart's intense interests are varied: people, horses, fishing, gardening, basketball, and family. He is a believer in organization, programs, lay leadership, and annual conference life. Down-to-earth stories as well as an acute memory of his past and an optimistic view of the future have flavored his sermons. He was an active member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

Tom and the church were supported in visible and helpful ways by Billie, his wife, and Shannon, his daughter. Billie worked efficiently and well within groups as varied as the Altar Guild, United Methodist Women, and United Methodist Youth Fellowship. She was especially appreciated for her help on trips with the Older Adult Council and her expertise in preparing food for church meals. Shannon was active in the youth groups, sang in the youth choir, learned to play the Carillon, and was a member of Bethany Bells.

Some of the significant activities in these years have been the inauguration of Terrific Tuesdays (January, 1983), utilization of the Evangelism Committee, greater emphasis on the nomination of new people to church committees, and preparation for and execution of our centennial celebration.

Charles Mercer, the Durham District Superintendent, appointed Tom Faggart to chair a committee to reorganize support for a Methodist student group on the campus of Duke University. The Wesley Fellowship has increased from fifteen to approximately forty members and provides spiritual growth and fellowship to students who come primarily from Methodist backgrounds.

The North Carolina Conference Committee on Higher Education and Ministry has received monetary support from Duke Memorial's United Methodist Women to provide ministerial leadership for Methodist students at Duke. The Reverend Mr. Michael Weber was appointed in 1983 to spend ten hours each week with the student group. Since the group has grown, it now requires one-half of his work week. Students have participated in Tuesday evening suppers, served as babysitters in the nursery, and have attended Sunday morning worship at Duke Memorial.

The achievements during the years of Tom Faggart's leadership are numerous. He placed great importance upon the bringing of new people into official responsibilities. He attempted to invigorate the committees of the

church giving special attention to evangelism (with important help from Omar and Helen Fink) and membership assimilation. A renewed sense of Duke Memorial's participation with other downtown churches for common effort was cultivated through Durham Congregations in Action, a group of diverse denominations. Rick Haverly was the contact person for this program.

Tom Faggart and church members who made a trip to Lake Junaluska in the summer of 1983 decided that the group should be organized to continue such trips and other activities as they might desire. As a result, the Older Adult Council was formed in 1984 to arrange trips, tours, and other activities for the older adult members of the church. Since then, the group has taken more than twenty day or overnight trips.

The church van accommodates eleven people for overnight trips and fourteen for day trips. On occasion, the group has rented additional vans or a bus in order to include as many as forty-four participants. An anonymous donor presented the church with a new, larger, and more comfortable van early in 1986. It replaced the much used ten year old vehicle.

The key people leading this new organization have been Oliver and Helen Upchurch with the generous support of Tom Faggart and Rick Haverly who usually drive the van. Trips have been made to Charleston, SC, Williamsburg and Charlottesville, VA, the Governor's mansion, the Legislative Building, the Art Museum in Raleigh, the State Zoological Park in Asheboro, Pinehurst, Research Triangle Park and Lake Junaluska.

Another activity helped on its way by Tom Faggart was the institution of "Terrific Tuesdays." Ann Marie Langford has provided leadership from its beginning in January 1983 through 1986. The Council on Ministries had proposed such a mid-week program meeting night in 1979. A moderately priced dinner prepared by Polly Mixon, the church hostess, and served by church members, is an integral part of the fellowship and the sharing of interests and concerns. Franklin Harrell has been invaluable in his work with the Kitchen Committee, Thomas Hargitt has been ever faithful in the collection of meal money, Lois Funderburk and Martha Brown have organized volunteers to serve meals.

Tuesday nights have become the regularly scheduled meeting time for the Administrative Board, the Council on Ministries, work areas, and most other church committees. Attendance has averaged approximately one hundred people except on special occasions when many more attend.

Faculty, staff, and visitors from Duke University who are willing to participate in church programs have provided opportunity to hear prestigious

Christian leaders from both our immediate community and around the world. Bishops C. P. Minnick and W. Kenneth Goodson were especially well received.

These events have been interspersed with programs from our own members. Family Ministries has planned programs that include the children and youth, Missions has enlightened and broadened our outreach, work team members have given reports, Dr. Randall Bolinger has presented his work with the Duke Medical Center organ transplant team, and Evangelism and Finance Committees garnered support for their programs and campaigns.

Richard B. Haverly, Jr. has served as associate minister and has filled roles of visitation and education. Rick has moved quietly among the congregation to serve through personal contacts and individual attention. During his tenure at Duke Memorial, Rick married Karen, a medical student at Duke, and the couple had their first child, Christine. His gentle spirit and receptive demeanor characterized his work that began as a student appointment. Rick was ordained elder in 1985.

Ellen H. Metcalf, an associate minister serving from 1984 until the present, possesses a poetic sense and dramatic interest. She relates especially well to the older members, to anyone in need, and to shut-ins and hospital patients. The range of her work includes sharing time with weekday schoolchildren each week, teaching church school classes, and supporting teachers and leaders. She has made a significant contribution to people for whom deep sympathy, visitation, and faithful care are important. Warm in feeling and buoyant in spirit, Ellen is the first ordained woman on Duke Memorial's staff and she adds a new and important dimension to the church's ministry. She was ordained elder in 1985.

As this decade comes to its completion, a description of the life of the church must include not only vital and growing dimensions, but also problems we are encountering. On the positive side are the areas of personal growth, institutional organization, community involvement, and a concern for one another. Our programs and efforts have reinforced these aspects of the church's life. On the negative side, are the continuing loss of membership, lack of a coherent sense of mission, and inability to raise the desired financial support for the budget. These problems are severe and were anticipated in The Reverend Mr. Warren B. Petteway's charge conference report in June of 1970.

> We have lost an unusually large number of people by death this year. Duke Memorial Church is in a rapidly changing neighborhood situation.

> People of different races and ethnic groups are moving into our neighborhood. Because of the expressway and redevelopment plan of the City of Durham, the membership of this church has become scattered and we have members living all over the city and county. Like all city churches, we are beset with many problems.

As we move into the future, we can affirm Mr. Petteway's next remark, "We feel that our opportunities are greater than any problems that we confront." Ministerial leadership, although critical, is only one factor. Duke Memorial needs a cohesive sense of its character and its goals. The Council on Ministries has explored and helped the congregation to discover and express these qualities. The total membership needs to find renewing worship and mission. Our ministerial leaders have sought to direct the congregation in significant ministry. We are hoping for continued effective leadership.

Some of the chief characteristics of Duke Memorial are found in the people who have led us. To portray our identity as a congregation, we can look at the main paths we have taken, the understanding we have achieved, and the tasks of mission we have undertaken. To recall these leaders is to recall who we are.

# Chapter III

## *A Garland of People*

Vital life at Duke Memorial has been the result of important lay leadership and contribution. A church lives by the creative effort of its laity and this is true of Duke Memorial. The church is its people. Consequently, to mention all of those who have put their lives and service into this congregation would be to include the congregational roll, or more correctly, to list those present for worship, then the membership of the board, the council, the committees, the church school classes, the United Methodist women and men, the choir, the altar guild, volunteers, and the list goes on.

A chapter of lists is neither interesting nor helpful in capturing the life and character of this church. A selection of people presently active is impossible because we would leave out more people than we could include—and who are we to designate those who do the most good for the Kingdom of God?

Yet, we want to discuss the laity because people are central to the life and mission of this church. Our way of honoring those who are now making contributions is to illustrate their service by discussing several individuals who, though now dead, still live among us: Maude Dunn, Nicholas Fagan, Sara Barker, and W. E. Whitford. The choices are arbitrary, but they are illustrative of the roles of lay people at Duke Memorial. We have deliberately chosen a variety of people whose service has been differently expressed. Saints come in unexpected sizes, with diverse gifts, in ordinary garb, and do good things that are at times recognized and at times overlooked. These persons—with their diversity—are our selected representatives of laity in this congregation.

### Maude Wilkerson Dunn

At the time of her death in February 1985, Maude Dunn was the oldest living member of Duke Memorial. She lived a life rich in years and service.

A resident of Durham, she graduated *magna cum laude* in 1906 from Trinity College, then continued to live in her hometown.

Maude Dunn was a teacher, devoted to children—both her own and those who came under her influence. In her oral history, she tells a story which is representative of her and her commitments. On the occasion of the illness of one of her children, a physician jokingly asked her, "which of your children do you love best?" She responded spontaneously, "I can't tell the difference unless one is sick." (Quotations are from an oral history recorded by The Reverend Mr. Robert L. Wallace, and can be found in the Duke Memorial Library.)

A resolution adopted by the Administrative Board and presented to the congregation sets forth appreciation for her special qualities.

> WHEREAS, Mrs. Maude Wilkerson Dunn is the oldest living member of Duke Memorial United Methodist Church, having joined the church by profession of faith on December 3, 1899, eighty-six years ago, and will be celebrating her 100th birthday on February 10, 1985.
>
> WHEREAS, she actively expressed her loyalty to the church as a Sunday School Superintendent and an Administrative Board member.
>
> WHEREAS, she attended Duke Memorial devotedly for all of the years of her life.
>
> WHEREAS, she expressed her faith as a part of the Durham Community in outstanding ways which included being a school principal, a teacher, a poet, and a gardener.
>
> WHEREAS, she was once chosen as mother of the year in the Durham Community, Maude Dunn has expressed in many ways her care and nurture of children.
>
> WHEREAS, she has given diligently to her church and community and has been respected for her honorable ways, her gifts of compassion and her strength of intelligence.
>
> NOW, THEREFORE, we the Administrative Board of Duke Memorial United Methodist Church, Durham, North Carolina, at the meeting of January 8, 1985, do extend our greetings and sincere appreciation for her dedicated service and witness to God as a member of the church.
>
> [signed]
>
> C. F. Clark, Chairman, Administrative Board
>
> Doris Blalock, Secretary

Born one year before the establishment of the Bethany Sunday School, Maude Dunn led a life parallel to that of Duke Memorial. As a child she attended Sunday School, church services twice on Sundays and her parents attended Wednesday prayer services. The church was the center around which

her life was formed. It is no surprise that she later taught Sunday School and served as superintendent of the children's department. She claims that from the age of sixteen, she "never went to Sunday School, I taught it." Perhaps "My Duty," one of her short poems, expresses why.

What I can do I will do
Where I can help I will help
What I can't do and can't help
Is not for me to do
(from her book, *Poetry*, p. 27)

In 1977, Maude Dunn received a letter from a man who had attended her school as a sixth grader. He wrote, "Of all the people, teachers, principals, and administrators who affected my life, you stand head and shoulders above them all." The former student spoke for many. Maude Dunn had found her special ministry in school rooms. She was a laywoman who represented important elements of our church's life.

## Nicholas B. Fagan

Nick Fagan was an ebullient man. Quick to speak and make friends, quick to organize a group of men for Rotary Club projects or for keeping the shrubbery around the church, he gathered "Fagan's Followers," a group of men who helped maintain the church grounds. It was typical of him to find a job to be done, to get a group together, and to accomplish his task. People liked to work with him. Nick was a natural welcomer; he spoke with warmth and made his pleasure in acquaintance evident.

We have chosen representative lay people, people whose lives span the activities and interests of the congregation. We want to focus especially on Nick Fagan's outgoing character and action and his contribution beyond the local church. He was a layman known by his good will and energetic service.

A eulogy written in the information sheet of the North Durham Rotary Club well describes his qualities.

> Names were important to Nick, because people were important to him. He took note of my name when he welcomed me on my first visit in February 1971; and from then until illness kept him from our meetings, he warmed my Tuesday's (and everyone's) when each one was greeted by name with his wide smile and solid handshake.
>
> *Caring* was important to Nick. He cared how we were; he cared about our families. He cared about our club's activities. He donated his time, his efforts, his money, for our causes (remember, he was a member of the downtown club!). His generosity of spirit and warm concern solidified

many friendships, and provided encouragement to me and others, by reminding us that what was done for the good of others, what was done in the spirit of Rotary, was always worthwhile, and worth doing. He was a solid, howbeit humble and quiet, support to all of our presidents.

Old-fashioned values were important to Nick. His marriage was long and strong, and he always introduced his gracious wife, Lila Mae, with great pride and obvious deep affection. His sense of commitment was inspiring, and his will was strong. His religious values informed his behavior. His sense of propriety governed his thoughts and speech (he was always, I suspect, a bit embarrassed over the name of our bulletin). I knew him as a man who put the best construction on everything, and thus could see some good in everyone, and some redeeming possibilities in each deed done.

## W. E. Whitford

W. E. Whitford was a quiet, persistent man, who took his responsibilities seriously and fulfilled them in steady but unspectacular ways. At Duke University, he was in charge of campus maintenance, was himself the controller of inventory, and master of all trades. At Duke Memorial, he was continually active. The social hall in the educational building honors him for his service with the plaque:

WHITFORD HALL
Named in Honor
of
WILLIAM EDWARD WHITFORD
Since 1927 Effective and Loyal Leader
For 27 Years Sunday School Superintendent
DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
28 November, 1978

W. E. Whitford started attending Duke Memorial when his first child was old enough to go to Sunday School. Within the year, he was made superintendent of the Youth Division for a short while and then he served as superintendent of the Church School for twenty-seven years (1946-1973). He was also Secretary of the Official Board, was on the Education Building Committee, and was, as he said, "trying to be" Director of Christian Education. His contributions were in his work at Duke University and in his church. The commitment of time he made was enormous and his regularity was notable. W. E. Whitford was a "church worker" in the truest sense of the word.

## Sara Barker

Sara Barker was vivacious, clever, and faithful. Her small stature was filled with a large heart. To understand her we can listen to her own words as she discussed her husband, Ralph, and herself.

> I think he loved his church about as much as any man I ever knew [he later became teacher of the Spence Bible Class]. And you know he was born a Catholic? And I never spoke to him about his religion and he never spoke to me about mine. But I did a lot of praying. I became very ill one time, and I think God played a great part in that. And he thought I was dying, and I guess I was. It was in 1918 in that awful epidemic of flu. And people died during the war with that. I was ill with it, and he joined the church. He took the children to Sunday School and brought them back, and then he went back to church. I didn't know it at first. I was "out." And when I got well, he was telling me about that, when old Dr. Edwards gave the invitation and said if anyone in the congregation would like to join by faith or by letter, would they please come to the rail. He said, "Sara, I declare, something pushed me up there. I got up and there I went." But he said he never regretted becoming a Methodist and he often wished that he had been before so he could have studied to be a preacher. So I was really proud of my family, and his mother came to live with us, and after so many years, she joined our Methodist church. She was a Catholic. So we were members of the church since '23, and the only thing I grieve about right now, if I have any grief, is that I can't take part in the work of the church and my class like I used to. I really do.

Sara Barker came to Durham in 1923 and moved her letter immediately to Duke Memorial. As was typical, she had her letter sent before anyone visited her. In fact, the minister visited because he had received her letter. "I got interested in the church, of course, and entered into all its activities." (Quotations are from an oral history recorded by The Reverend Mr. Robert L. Wallace and can be found in the Duke Memorial Library.) This commitment continued throughout her life and years later, she said of her church, "I love it, I love the work there, and I'm so disappointed and frustrated that at ninety-five now, that I can't come and enter into the activities that I once did." She may have been frustrated late in her life but for many years she was active and her work bore much fruit.

The interests of Sara Barker ranged from children's work—the Sara Barker Developmental Center is appropriately named for her—to the King's Daughters Home, a retirement home for women. The Center was a project of the Sara Barker Circle of the King's Daughters.

As a lay person, she worked both within and outside the church. No artificial boundaries defined the reach of her service. Her energies and her concerns were too great to be restrained easily. So she worked in the kitchen and enjoyed it. She established service enterprises and enjoyed the work. She continued to visit the Developmental Center as long as she was able, answering the telephone and giving advice. She kept up with her family, her church, and her projects, always with joy, always wishing there was more she could do.

Sara Barker spent her last years in the Methodist Retirement Home on Erwin Road. She shared with her fellow residents her love of life, her pleasure in helping others, and her sense of Christian well-being. She represents well the ideal our church has held for its laity.

## CONCLUSION

This brief survey of four lay persons is intended to represent all of the lay people who have enriched and extended the ministry of Duke Memorial. At best, it is only suggestive. There are others who have served faithfully and well. The "cloud of witnesses" is too numerous for any one person to recall, but many are known to each of us and all are known to God.

We have mentioned some who are now gone. The potential for embarrassment, and indeed sheer error, is too great for us to begin to name people now active as teachers, administrators, worshippers, visitors, prayers, and workers in the church. And there are those who express their faith beyond the church in their vocations, volunteer activities, in financial stewardship, and simple caring for persons in need. To recall the persons singled out in this chapter is to recall the role of all of the laity who continue to nourish the basic values of Christian living.

A legitimate portrait of Duke Memorial is a reflection of the lives of such laity. Our laity embody our worship and our mission. It is they who give color and texture to our congregational life and it is they who daily exhibit the interests and concerns of our church.

# Chapter IV

## *A Time for Worship*

The worship style of a congregation reveals much about its life. The weekly bulletins remind us of high moments, people involved, and variety of practice. We see evidence of the work of the altar guild, the changing sets of ushers, the greeters, and the choir. The orders of worship attest to special days and programs, Communion services and special music; the sanctuary is enhanced by the symbolism of Chrismon trees, Easter lilies, Christmas poinsettias, and appropriate banners.

### THE SANCTUARY

The setting of worship has been of special importance for Duke Memorial. From the time of initial construction, the sanctuary has been recognized as especially beautiful. The pews form an arc around the pulpit, choir loft, and organ, the shell of lovely windows, and the vaulted ceiling of some forty-four feet combines intimacy with grandeur. This is a sanctuary that invites worship.

In 1970-71, the sanctuary underwent a thorough renovation. W. Kenneth Howard, a layman of remarkable dedication, was chairman of the Properties Committee and served as engineering overseer for the project. Jesse Cole, a longtime and faithful member, was the general contractor. Work was done on the sanctuary and the church school and choir areas immediately behind. The organ was replaced, the windows were repaired, and a new sound system was installed. Robert T. A. Pifer was chairman of the organ committee and Ruth S. Phelps (Mrs. Leland S.) chaired the organ selection committee. At a cost of $279,000, the interior was completely reworked and a new Holtcamp organ was installed, giving to the sanctuary a new vibrancy. Mrs. Marshall T. Spears, Sr. gave seat cushions for the sanctuary.

Ken Howard's contribution is to be especially noted. Ken served a central role in construction and maintenance at Duke University from 1935 to 1975, where he worked with W. E. Whitford. He has given himself unstintingly to the planning and execution of physical plant needs at Duke Memorial. A tight schedule of work was arranged so that the congregation would be inconvenienced as little as possible. Morning worship was held in the fellowship hall, while construction activities took place in the scaffold-filled sanctuary. To re-lead and repair the windows, Duke Memorial hired the grandson of Joseph V. Llorens, the original stained glass artist who designed and constructed the windows. From September 1970 until December 1971, the work was underway. By the close of 1971, the congregation was in the sanctuary and enjoyed worship, made more attractive by the renovation.

A decade later, in the summer of 1982, the carillon tower was renovated. The bells were reworked in an East Durham machine shop and the playing mechanism was overhauled by a company in Cincinnati, Ohio. The console was in good condition but the limestone in the tower was reworked. The work was completed at a quick pace and, once again, the physical complex for worship was complete.

## MUSIC

Duke Memorial has always been known for the quality of its music. From the earliest days, the church recognized the music program as one of the distinctive marks of worship services.

Jane W. Sullivan, Melba Pifer Bartholomew, and Jane Lynch have been the choir directors during the recent past. Ruth S. Phelps, Dr. Tom Clark, Martha Tate, and Jane Lynch have been the organists. These people have kept alive the tradition of excellence that has characterized the music program. Jane Sullivan brought new members into the choir making it one of the largest choirs in Durham and one of the most professional in performance. She resigned when she accepted a faculty position at Meredith College in 1966. Melba Bartholomew—a member of the Pifer family that has long supported, participated in, and led in the musical life of Duke Memorial—continued and enriched the high musical standards of the Chancel Choir. In 1979, Melba discontinued her service as director.

From 1966 to 1976, Ruth Phelps brought a classical quality of excellence as organist. Her playing was carefully prepared and was performed with sensitivity. She won the congregation's attention and appreciation as she brought a high standard to the playing especially of preludes and postludes. In addition, she has contributed to the institutional life in her role as chair of

the Organ Selection Committee and her service on the Council on Ministries and the Faith and Arts Committee.

Dr. Tom Clark first served Duke Memorial as a student assistant and then became organist from 1976 to 1979. He played with a vigorous energy that was exhilarating. His hymn accompaniments were particularly strong and inspired the congregation to sing. His fondness of the Baroque style colored his playing.

In September 1979, Jane Lynch became the combined choir director and organist. This was the first time a director-organist position had been held since Mrs. S. W. Venable retired in 1928. Jane came to the church from the position of Assistant Organist at Duke University Chapel. She brought excellent training and a sharp sense of continuity in the experience of worship and musical quality. She presents music of all periods: romantic nineteenth century music of Mendelssohn and Brahms; contemporary music of Messiaen and Durntle; turn-of-the-century French composers such as Vierne and Widor; but most frequently the greatest composers for organ, Bach and his contemporaries.

Dr. Ann Stallings (Mrs. June H., Jr.) and Carolyn Shipp (Mrs. W. L.) have consistently contributed to the children's choirs. For this group Jane stresses enthusiastic participation. With her senior group, she strives for blend and accurate ensemble and conducts as she plays.

To mention the senior choir requires a special word. The quality of music at Duke Memorial is superior and the choir helps make it so. The Chancel Choir is composed of talented people who are also tenaciously faithful and vigorously participant in the worship services. Faithful over the years and consistent in contribution, the church is enriched by the choir's quality of commitment and service.

The musical program has been too rich to recount in full, but a listing of the special programs for the last fourteen months indicates a typical period.

## MUSIC PROGRAMS: 1985-1986

| *DATE* | *EVENT* |
|---|---|
| 1985 | |
| November 17 | Cantata 140, Bach "Sleepers Wake" |
| December 15 | Service of Lessons and Carols |
| 1986 | |
| January 12 | Old American Hymns |
| January 19 | Featured Composer: Mendelssohn |
| February 16 | Selections from Faure *Requiem* |

| | |
|---|---|
| March 16 | Selections from Stainer's *Crucifixion* |
| March 30 | Alleluia for Christ the Lord is Risen—Bach |
| | Hallelujah Chorus—Handel |
| April 13 | Featured Composer: Cesar Franck |
| May 11 | How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place—Brahms |
| | Old 100th Psalm Tune—Vaughan Williams |
| Fall, 1986 | Featured Composers: Faure, Samuel Wesley |

The tradition of performing great cantatas during the Sunday morning worship hour continues to be the choir's special contribution to the congregation. Beginning in 1984, the choir has led in the celebration of the Moravian/Methodist Love Feast on a Sunday evening in December.

Several special events stand out such as the adult choir's service of "A Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten in 1982 and Jane Lynch's Centennial organ concert in 1986. Nicholas Kitchen, violinist, and his father, Joseph Kitchen, pianist, presented a Centennial concert on March 16, 1986 in the sanctuary. The concert attracted people from throughout the community. Nicholas is studying at Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. A Durham native, he is well known to Duke Memorial members. The Kitchens played Sonatas in A Major by Georg F. Handel and Gabriel Faure; also "Havanaise" by Camille Saint-Saens, "Berceuse" by Karol Szymanovski, and "Tzigane, Rhapsodie de Concert" by Maurice Ravel.

In the years 1983 through 1985, the choirs of our neighboring churches, Temple Baptist and The Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic, have joined Duke Memorial for an ecumenical Thanksgiving service and a fellowship hour on the Wednesday night before Thanksgiving.

Excitement about the establishment of a handbell choir and the gift of handbells to the church in 1985 is recorded in *The Messenger* (Donna Elium is the current editor).

Handbells To Be Dedicated Dec. 8

Sunday, Dec. 8, during the morning worship service, the Malmark handbells will be dedicated and played for the first time.

Our special guests will be Louise and Christy Hibberd of Sumter, S. C., who have given the bells and equipment in honor of Christy's parents, Pauline Vick Hibberd and Christy Hibberd.

The handbells, from Malmark, Inc., are bronze, precision crafted instruments. We have three octaves which contains 37 bells. They are stored in padded, lined cases. Other equipment given includes gloves, stands, and music.

Our appreciation is expressed not only to the gracious donors, but to our "Bethany Bells"—Mark Bollinger, Deborah Brown, Kelly Eggleston, Matt Eggleston, Shannon Faggart, Stuart McGregor, Mandy Mixon, Mike Nester, Laura Ritchie, Melissa Sellers, Samantha Sellers, and Todd Warren. The bell choir was named by the youths themselves, to recognize the founding of Duke Memorial on May 2, 1886 as Bethany Sunday School, meeting in W. Duke and Sons Factory. They have worked hard to prepare, since the bells arrived later than expected.

The choir and bells will also take part in the Dec. 8 "Moravian Love Feast" and the Dec. 15 "Service of Lessons and Carols."

Maureen Oakes is the director of the bell choir.

Music that was particularly popular in 1886 has been performed by our choir, organist, and soloists during this year and has enhanced the centenary theme.

On Sunday, January 12, 1986, the prelude, choral introit and postlude were all works of Samuel Wesley, John Wesley's grand nephew who was a famous organist in England in the early nineteenth century. Two of the congregational hymns were written by Charles Wesley and the other hymn, "Jesus Thy Boundless Love to Me," was translated by John Wesley.

Of special note was a music workshop tour in 1979 by some of our young people: David McConnell, Marie Bowles, Carol Christmas, Marty Pifer (Durham District Youth President), and Faye Rodenhizer (UMYF President). These young people raised money for their trip by holding a car wash, moving library books, hosting bake sales, providing breakfast, and serving luncheons.

A special musical contribution to Duke Memorial and of Duke Memorial to its environs is the daily noon and Sunday playing of the carillon. These bells were placed in the church tower shortly after its construction in 1908. For the last twenty-five years, J. V. Hoyle has been the carillonneur. On February 9, 1986 at the morning worship service, Mr. Hoyle was presented with a "Resolution of Appreciation" for his loyal and faithful service. He has been assisted by Albert Buehler since March 1986. Both men are generous in their willingness to conduct tours of the bell tower for church and weekday school children and to teach others the techniques of bell ringing. The bells rang for five minutes as part of our nation's celebration on July 4, 1976.

# ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild was formed in 1971. The purpose of the Guild was to add to the dignity and meaning of the morning worship service. The Guild has been extremely helpful in the planning and execution of worship. The most obvious activity has been the training and preparation of acolytes for their participation as assistants in the service.

Mrs. Lillian Dameron was instrumental in the organization of the Altar Guild when it began. The charter members laid the groundwork for the high quality of service the group provides today. Especially generous were The Reverend Charles S. Hubbard and the Methodist Men who planned and prepared the area the Altar Guild uses for its storage and work.

The Altar Guild is a group of quietly unobtrusive, trained, and dedicated women who ensure that services of worship proceed smoothly and well. In truth, their responsibilities cover a wide variety of activities. They train and schedule acolytes and they are present before and after services on Sunday to see that aids to worship are in place for use or storage. Flowers, candles, paraments, banners, Chrismon trees, acolyte robes, silver, brass, Communion sets and the elements, all are a part of the responsibility of members of the Altar Guild. These forty carefully chosen women are divided into committees on Communion, funerals and weddings. Members are present whenever one of these services takes place. They attend to the details and work closely with the ministers, the ushers, and the worship and music committees.

Theirs is a uniquely demanding contribution of time and talent. Altar Guild charter members were:

| | |
|---|---|
| Lillian Dameron | (Mrs. Earl) |
| Laura Cleeves | (Mrs. George) |
| Lee Ona Phillips | (Mrs. C.E. Jr.) |
| Ganelle Turner | (Mrs. Kenneth M.) |
| Emetta Seeley | (Mrs. Walter) |
| Olivia Henderson | (Mrs. K.E.) |
| Mary Bitting | (Mrs. N.P.) |
| Marguerite Pate | (Mrs. Robert H.) |
| Ruth Phelps | (Mrs. Leland S.) |
| Margaret McCotter | (Mrs. Clifton) |
| Edith Berry | (Mrs. Bryan) |

Altar Guild Chairpersons:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1971-73 Lee Ona Phillips | (Mrs. C.E. Jr.) |

1971 Ganelle Turner (Mrs. Kenneth M.)
(served as co-chair for six months)
1974-75 Laura Cleeves (Mrs. George)
1976-77 Grace Cooke (Mrs. B.D.)
1978-79 Virginia Ballagh (Mrs. Ralph M.)
1980-81 Gloria Johnson (Mrs. E.H.)
1982-83 Tamela Davis (Mrs. George M. Jr.)
1984-85 Sarah McCracken (Mrs. J.P.)
1986- Minnie Mae Franklin

## USHERS

In 1986, William W. Poythress (known to his friends as "Buster"), long-time head of Duke Memorial ushers, turned over his responsibilities to Thomas G. Hargitt. Buster said (as recorded in the 1981 oral history interview), "I don't know what has happened to the people not coming to church. Lot of them say that Sunday they have to rest—after working all the week. You know I feel better after I've been to church on Sundays. I feel more rested, more congenial."

## CONCLUSION

Worship is central to the life of any congregation, for it is the worship of God that is the distinguishing reality of Christian life. Worship is the central magnet that holds Christian community together. This is the case at Duke Memorial. What other activities we may engage in, what other programs we sponsor, what service we render, what study we undertake are all held together and given their proper value by our worship of God.

Worship is not a time of the week, it is a way of life, a stance before God and people, a primary commitment that directs all other commitments. Worship is the continual offering of life to God in adoration, thanksgiving, repentance, self-giving, and service. Worship comes to communal expression in those events in the congregation when we explicitly gather before God for prayer and praise, for hearing and singing, for receiving and giving. It is our worship that paints the undertone of vitality on our portrait.

We worship through word and sacrament. Preaching as conveyance of God's word remains primary, and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper is an enactment of Jesus' self-giving and our response in grateful love. Baptism of children and adults, special music, the preludes and postludes, scripture reading and prayers all focus our attention, deepen our love, and empower our service.

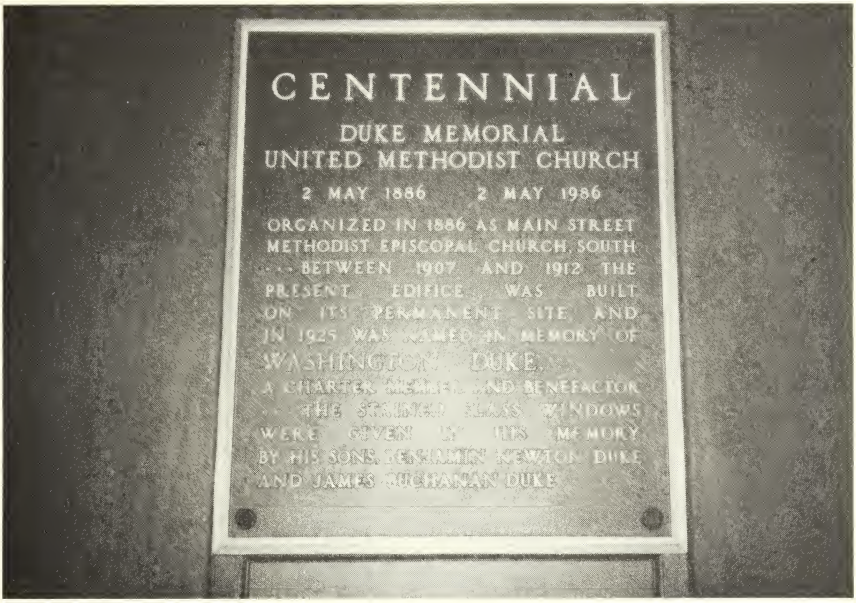
Duke Memorial named to National Register of Historic Places. Dr. William S. Price, Director of N. C. Dept. of Archives and History, presents certificate to Dillard Teer, chairman of church Trustees.

Centennial Dinner in April. Duke family members: Henry Nicholson, Mrs. Mary Semans, Miss Lida Angier, Mrs. Zalene Angier, Newton Angier, and Duke Angier.

Duke Memorial celebrates 90th year at first homecoming dinner on the lawn.

Rev. R. T. Commander, center, minister in 1986, with Rev. Rod Mullen and Rev. Ellen Metcalf.

H. E. Spence Bible Class sponsored Centennial oak planted in January 1986.


CENTENNIAL
DUKE MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2 MAY 1886 2 MAY 1986
ORGANIZED IN 1886 AS MAIN STREET
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH
BETWEEN 1907 AND 1912 THE
PRESENT EDIFICE WAS BUILT
ON ITS PERMANENT SITE AND
IN 1925 WAS NAMED IN MEMORY OF
WASHINGTON DUKE
A CHARTER MEMBER AND BENEFACTOR
THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS
WERE GIVEN IN ITS MEMORY
BY HIS SONS BENJAMIN NEWTON DUKE
AND JAMES BUCHANAN DUKE

Bronze plaque in narthex commemorating the Centennial.

Centennial Committee

Rev. Edward F. Smith shown with members of U.M.W. and needlepoint banner for 90th anniversary in 1976.

Bishop C. P. Minnick preaches on Homecoming Day in May 1986.

Rev. T. M. Faggart, minister, Dillard Teer, Dr. Arthur Kale, Dr. Wallace Kiby, district superintendent, at presentation of "Guardians of Worship"

Workmen lower one of the ten tower bells to be reworked when interior of bell tower was restored.

# Chapter V

## *Gifts and Giving*

On Homecoming Sunday, October 30, 1932, D. W. Newsome read the following statement that was later published in the first *History of Duke Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, South* and in the bulletin for our Centennial Service, May 4, 1986.

> It is with a sense of just pride that we review the history of our church from its beginning as a small Sunday school in a factory office down to this good day, October 30, 1932. But as church members, we must not forget that the church, of all institutions, cannot boast of its material equipment. These are only the consecrated implements for a high task. Its richest traditions and treasures must always be the memory of Godly lives—the long line of such lives sanctified and beautified through the inspiration of its sacred altars. Whether small or great, in the country or in the city, the test of the true church in the world is its ability to redeem and purify and electrify human life, to put the kingdom of God into the hearts of men and send them forth into the world conscious of the presence of God and the brotherhood of the race.
>
> To such high ends may Duke Memorial Church forever remain dedicated.

The emphases are correct. Yet we have been through a decade that has kept our material wellbeing before us. Financial conditions often reflect the general condition of a church. But the relationship between health of the church and amount of giving is not always easily interpreted. At Duke Memorial, declining membership has made it continually difficult to raise the budget, yet there has been good stewardship on the part of many members. Nevertheless, our financial position is challenging. In the past decade, our church attendance has declined by one-third and our giving has increased, but we are not keeping up with need.

A letter on October 14, 1985, during our every member canvass, from our minister, T. M. Faggart, makes the situation clear.

Dear Duke Memorial Member,

In the most recent Gallup poll on religion, ministers were rated at the top of the list for credibility. Believing this to be generally true, I feel a communication at this time relative to your church will be believed, and responded to. I have some concerns I must share with you.

I. Duke Memorial's dwindling membership is a reality. Normally, a church will lose 8% of its membership per year. Since we have approximately 1,000 resident members this means we will lose 80 members by death, moving, or to regressing to inactivity. Duke Memorial hasn't received that many people into the church in one year since *1969.*

The solution to membership loss is simple—active inactive, get every member sponsoring new members. The side effects of such work will be

1. need for more Sunday School classes-
2. more activities-
3. more money with which to operate-

As your senior pastor I enjoin you to help. Respond by making a mental list of those persons you know who do not belong to a church. Pray for these friends. Invite them to church. Come to church as regularly as possible.

II. As our membership retreats our financial obligations increase.

1. Utilities are on the rise. Last week Duke Power was given a 9.1% increase. We use our buildings more than any church I know. Budget increase for 1986 in this line item is $10,500.

2. Staff needs are great because of: the age break down of our congregation—65% over retirement age; plus a special need to grow. We need the staff positions we now have. If we lose a staff member necessity will call us back and we will have to start over at the same place we were three years ago—trying to acquire experienced, quality staff with minimum finances. This is impossible. Our staff salaries are now at a level where experienced help can be acquired. For 1986 we are trying to keep these salaries at the same purchasing level as 1985—budget increase of $3,355.

III. Connectional Askings are on the rise. This is true because we are raising more and spending more than at any time in our history. Connectional Askings are based on 31.5% of our budget less building upkeep, and local mission giving. It is the same for every church in the Conference—increase of $6,900.

You received the financial program last week in the mail. A percentage increase of 11% is crucial. If you can give more, please do.

I figure it will take Duke Memorial five to ten years to make the transition it is now undergoing. Every year is crucial. A great deal of work by each of

us must be done if Duke Memorial is to survive as a major congregation in Durham and the North Carolina Conference.

Please give us your help!

Attend, invite, pray, and give.

During the second and third decades of this century, Duke Memorial in her youth was perhaps the largest church in Durham. She has passed through middle age (is she now in retirement?). The number of members has diminished, yet those who remain are financially stronger than many have been in the past. Duke Memorial cannot rely, however, on the giving of her financially able members. If we are to serve in mission, new members are most important. This church must find ways for its age to give rise to new birth, for its golden years to transmit a new time, for its faithful members to produce more faithful members. Memorials, special funds, and property assets offer signs of hope.

## MEMORIALS

An impressive set of memorials established by members cover a wide range of interests, honor numerous people, and serve particular efforts of the church. We want to call attention to the new memorials that have been given since 1975 as they are listed in our church files.

*JAPANESE PAINTING OF CHRIST*

A memorial to the parents of Dorothy and Elizabeth Wilson, given by the Misses Wilson and Mr. Isowa Tanaka, is displayed in the Prayer Room. 1975

*PEW CUSHIONS*

Given in loving memory of Marshall Turner Spears, Sr., 1889-1975, Officer and Leader of Duke Memorial for forty-nine years, by his widow, Estelle Flowers Spears. 1978

*MEMORIAL BOOK*

Presented in loving memory of Earl C. Dameron by his family. 1978

*MEMORIAL BOOK TABLE*

Given in loving memory of George Dameron McCracken by his family. 1978

*CABINET FOR GUEST BOOK*

Presented in loving honor of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Phillips, Jr., by their daughters and their husbands, Mr. and Mrs. Curt L. Rogers, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Jeffrey. 1978

*BRASS CANDLELIGHTER*

Given by Mr. and Mrs. Dewey S. Mims, long-time members of Duke Memorial.

*ANTIQUE BRASS LAMP*

Given to illuminate the Guest Book in the Narthex by Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Phillips, Jr. 1979

*MADONNA PICTURES*

Two pictures from the collection of Mrs. Walter J. Seeley presented to the H. E. Spence Bible Class and to the Lillie Duke Sunday School Class by her daughter, Bett Seeley Hill, in honor of her mother and in loving memory of her father, Dr. Walter J. Seeley. 1975

*NEEDLEPOINT*

The needlepoint covers for the three chairs in the Prayer Room were given by Mrs. Evelyn Petty in loving memory of her sister, Lyda Mae Brock. The canvas embroidery was the handwork of Misses Dorothy and Elizabeth Wilson. 1978

*MICROPHONE*

The electro voice neck microphone was given by R. F. Boddie. November, 1976

*WATER FOUNTAIN*

For use in the choir practice room, a drinking fountain was given by R. R. Few. November, 1976

Installation service for the drinking fountain was donated by Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Copelan.

*WHITE PARAMENTS*

To the Glory of God and for the use of Duke Memorial Church, white paraments were presented in loving memory of J. Otis Kimrey (1902-1978) by friends of Mr. Kimrey's family. Dedicated June 10, 1979

*ORIENTAL RUG*

The oriental rug displayed in the Prayer Room was given in memory of T. E. Allen, Jr. (1907-1979), by his wife and daughter. Dedicated November 28, 1982

*BRASS VASE*

A brass vase to be used in the Narthex was given in memory of T. E. Allen, Jr., by his wife and daughter. Dedicated November 28, 1982

*UNITY CANDLE*

Given by Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Veasey July, 1984

*BRASS ADVENT-WREATH FRAME AND STAND*

Presented in loving memory of Word C. Clark by his family. 1981

*LINEN COMMUNION CLOTHS*

A gift to Duke Memorial in memory of Word C. Clark by his family. 1982

*BRASS PLANTERS*

Two hammered brass planters given by Margaret Prince in loving memory of her sister, Claudia P. Bishop. 1985

*BRASS OFFERING PLATES*

Eight offering plates given by Mrs. Charlotte Allen in memory of her husband, Thomas E. Allen, Jr., a life-long member of Duke Memorial from 1907-1979. He was literature secretary for approximately twenty years. His parents were charter members of Duke Memorial. Dedicated July 7, 1985

*CHALICES AND PATEN*

Two chalices and paten given in loving memory of Dr. Joseph P. McCracken by his daughter and her husband, the Reverend and Mrs. David Arant.

*CHOIR ROBES*

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Boyce Craig and family gave new robes for the senior choir in memory of Mrs. Craig's father, Mr. Harold Daniel Schnitzlein. 1982

*HANDBELLS*

Thirty-seven bronze, precision crafted handbells by Malmark, Inc. were given by Louise and Christy Hibberd in memory of Pauline Vick Hibberd and Christy Hibberd. Accompanying equipment for the bells includes storage cases, gloves, stands, and music. 1985

Duke Memorial has received other gifts that should be mentioned here. The photographic essay on our church windows, *Guardians of Worship: Duke Memorial Windows 1886-1986,* was written by W. Arthur Kale and financially underwritten by Mr. and Mrs. R. Dillard Teer and their family.

This history, *The Centenary of Duke Memorial Church,* is published through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. White, Jr.

The willow oak trees, planted on the grounds in 1985, and the boxwoods which are foundation plantings were given by R. Dillard Teer.

The white oak Centennial Tree was given by the H. E. Spence Bible Class and the stone commemorative marker was given by Winston E. Montgomery in January 1986.

## OTHER FUNDS AND GIFTS

In addition to memorials, there are other funds which have been established. The complete list, maintained by our church treasurer, James A. Long, should include these additions to the previous church history.

THOSE WHO REMEMBERED: Duke Memorial was remembered in the Will of Mr. Fred Stephens. He left us with 1000 shares of Exxon, and 1000 shares of Virginia Utility Stock. In the past year the Shore Estate left us $43,000 in cash, a house, and a 127 acre farm. Your senior minister believes these gifts are visible evidence that God supplies the needs of the church by laying upon the hearts of his dedicated servants the support of the church. We support it in life, and many love the church so much that they want to continue that support indefinitely.

In 1984, Miss Mary Shore left a tract of 127 acres of land in Person County along with her home and contents at 102 Forestwood Drive and additional money to Duke Memorial. The home has been used as a parsonage by our assistant pastor and some of the furnishings and silver have been sold. The house will be sold this year (1986). Two historic and valuable pieces of walnut furniture made by the famous free black North Carolina cabinet-maker, Thomas Day (mid 1800s), are on loan to the Division of Archives and History of State of North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and are on display at Stagville Preservation Center.

A computer for office use was given to Duke Memorial. However, the used computer was not compatible with our particular church needs. In April of 1986, the Administrative Board, on motion by Dr. Marcus Hobbs, voted to investigate the purchase of a computer and set in motion a solicitation of funds, not to exceed $7,599. The church is moving towards more sophisticated and efficient office management.

The church parsonage at 2000 Cedar Street was redecorated in 1982. Approximately $10,000 was spent on kitchen renovation, carpeting, painting, recovering, and purchasing furniture.

Earlier, in 1976, the church repurchased the property which it had years before sold to Durham Dairy. The area was cleared and the land was turned into parking lots. This has enhanced the church's assets.

With the gifts for memorials and special projects, with the utilization of new technology, and with the improvement of the parsonage, Duke Memorial has maintained its physical properties well.

It is impossible to discuss the financial life of the church in this past decade and not mention William E. Self. In a special recognition on October 13, 1985, Shirley D. Few, chair of the Administrative Board, read a statement of appreciation. Bill had served as church Treasurer for twelve years and was now giving up this position. Bill's service extends beyond financial affairs in the church but he has made a distinctive contribution as Treasurer. His commitment, good sense, and faithful service are especially to be noted. James A. Long has succeeded to the position of Treasurer. Jim continues with solid and valuable service to Duke Memorial.

## CONCLUSION

The financial dilemma of Duke Memorial implies challenge, immediate challenge to each member. Edith Toms, Chair of the Council on Ministries, words this challenge well.

> Each fall, we all hear the term "Every Member Commitment." I am called to commit anew all of my resources. But in October, I know my financial commitment must be made to Duke Memorial for the coming year. This is an important part of my witness. We all witness to God's love in our daily lives with everything we do, but we provide a community witness, a more visible corporate Christian witness through the programs of Duke Memorial.

# Chapter VI

## *People, Programs, and Possibilities*

What we do reveals who we are. Hence, a portrait of Duke Memorial must attempt to catch movement. The motion is blurred by the number of people and the proliferation of programs that simultaneously occur, yet it is these overlapping activities that reflect the faith and life, the discipleship and mission of this church.

Consider an ordinary week.

*Sunday*. church school heralds the day as unfailing leaders guide faithful class members in discussion, activity, and thought. Worship follows with the participation of choir members, organist, ministers, ushers, greeters, Altar Guild ladies, acolytes, treasurer, roll takers, and worshippers. Youth programs and perhaps a Christian Worker's School or district meeting close the day.

*Monday*. United Methodist Women gather monthly in circles and convene for their general meeting and luncheon.

*Tuesday*. Terrific Tuesday agendas entertain and enlighten us with programs ranging from Bible studies to talent shows. Preceded by dinner and followed by board and committee meetings and Bethany Bells rehearsal, Tuesdays are for fellowship and service.

*Wednesday*. Bazaar workshops and during holy seasons Advent or Lenten noon devotionals and luncheons occur midweek.

*Thursday*. The senior choir practices weekly while the United Methodist Men meet monthly for dinner and special presentations.

*Every day*. The Community Life Center and the Weekday School. Caroline Sasser (Mrs. Louis L.) is the director. Alcoholics Anonymous, Scouts, and other community groups inhabit the church buildings.

Activities are valuable only if they serve worthy goals. Movement should be toward ends worth pursuing. A survey of United Methodist

Women's projects conveys a strong sense of good and valuable involvement. This partial list makes its own case.

- Good Samaritan Fund
- Child Advocacy
- Meals on Wheels
- Robeson Co. Community Center Work Teams
- Duke University International House
- Contact Teleministries
- Appalachian Service Projects
- Cooperative Home (high school for pregnant girls)
- Foreign Mission Projects
- Methodist Retirement Home
- Hassle House
- Edgemont Community Center
- YWCA
- Church Weekday School
- John Umstead Hospital
- Divinity School Intern at Methodist Retirement Home
- Community Life Center

Although not complete, the list is significant enough to provoke a proper pride. These are the sorts of activities a church should be about. Helpful and caring services, these are the programs that extend to people in need and which represent the ethical character of a church. To describe Duke Memorial one must lift these activities to prominence.

The support for such work comes from several church organizations and many people. Chief among the organizations is United Methodist Women. The names of the past presidents of UMW are listed on a plaque displayed in the Bradshaw Room. Since 1976, the position has been held by Mrs. William T. Coman (1976-77), Mrs. Spencer J. Ervin (1978-81), Mrs. Robert S. Weynand (1982-83), Mrs. Maxine V. Blair (1984-85), and Mrs. Thomas S. Coble, Jr. (1986- ). These executive officers have provided direction as learning, devotion, and action, take place.

UMW activities such as the annual bazaar represent the collective offering of prayers, gifts, service, and time. From purchasing materials to encouraging participants, Betty Craig (Mrs. A. B.) has been a catalyst for the festival of handmade crafts, home-made food and special event meals. Each year, a contribution averaging $7,000 from bazaar receipts added to a portion of UMW membership pledges results in a total annual giving of $10,000 which goes directly to mission projects.

A portion of this money is given to the Sew-Vols who, with the energetic leadership of Eugenia Dixon, purchase materials to make lap robes, wheelchair and walker pockets, bibs, and table decorations for the Methodist Retirement Home.

The contemporary role of women is best understood within an historical context. Duke Memorial took early initiative to give women a significant and official role in its life and work.

Members of the Board of Stewards date back to 1920 and include:

Mrs. J. C. Angier (who was appointed trustee in 1925)
Mrs. J. E. Stagg
Mrs. W. P. Clements, chairman of books and envelopes
Mrs. C. D. Rigsbee, chairman of the parsonage committee
Miss Anne Garrard in 1933
Mrs. N. R. Hunter in 1933
Mrs. W. B. Dunn in 1934

Other women attended meetings of the Board of Stewards and reported for the Women's Missionary Society.

Mrs. A. M. Gates from 1924-25
Mrs. H. C. Satterfield in 1926
Mrs. Nello Teer in 1929
Mrs. T. E. Allen in 1930
Miss Reba Cousins, President of Epworth League in 1931
Mrs. James Cannon in 1932
Mrs. J. M. Ormond in 1933
Mrs. J. P. Breedlove in 1934

The continuing contribution of women has unusual importance. Shirley Few (Mrs. R. R., Jr.) was the first woman to serve as Chairman of the Administrative Board in 1982-83 and was lay leader in 1984-85. Zelle Borland (Mrs. A. H.) had been the first woman to serve as lay leader. Viginia Massey (Mrs. Norman W.), the longtime church secretary personifies the patient, longsuffering, and faithful servant who carries forward the work of the church. Beyond the official positions listed above, the women of the church have been strong influences through study programs on missions as well as in their Sunday School classes, through mission giving, through work with church properties, through support of Durham city missions, through support service in the church, and through work with programs for people in need. They persistently challenge the church to be the church.

The United Methodist Men gather twice a month to share either breakfast or dinner and to enjoy programs that range in content from gardening to devotional meditations. This convivial group often invites others to join

them for occasions such as a reception for the ministers or an annual banquet for spouses.

Duke Memorial Church maintains close ties with the Methodist Retirement Home and the Coble Health Care Center. Many church members are residents there and continue long time activity at Duke Memorial or become active as they move to Durham from other places and join this congregation.

Juanita Stott organized a Methodist Home Circle for United Methodist Women. Harry Rodenhizer drives the church van to pick up members in time for Sunday School and returns them there after the church service. These active members add much to the spirit and work of Duke Memorial. In turn, there is a sense of responsibility for Home members who have special needs.

## COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

In 1968, the Methodist Church united with the Evangelical United Brethren Church. This was a union of two church bodies that had been closely related throughout their existence in the United States. From the time of Francis Asbury, Jacob Albright, and Phillip Otterbein, there had been common evangelistic effort, common sharing of hymns and worship, a common sense of mission and service. By mid-twentieth century, the lines of development were converging and union seemed natural.

A comparative study of the two organizational forms revealed that the EUB church had a Council on Ministries as a part of its congregational life. The new form of church polity made a Council on Ministries a part of each local church and conference structure. In that initial year, 1968, Duke Memorial organized its Council on Ministries with W. Arthur Kale as chairman. We felt a strong sense of achievement in moving to the new structure so quickly under his capable and careful leadership.

The purpose of the Council was to keep the mission of the church at the center of the congregation's attention. The Administrative Board and all of the decision-making bodies of the church were to act in the service of the missional goals as were set by the Council and endorsed by the appropriate church bodies.

Duke Memorial's Council on Ministries began in an auspicious manner. Members took their responsibilities seriously and clarified the goals of the church. As far as can be determined from existing records and memory, members of the first Council were:

W. Arthur Kale
Marshall T. Spears, Jr.
Warren B. Petteway
Kathryn Parks

| | |
|---|---|
| Henry L. Sublett, Jr. | W. E. Whitford |
| Jack B. Cliff | Ella Glasson (Mrs. John) |
| Hilda Coble (Mrs. T. S. Jr.) | T. S. Coble, Jr. |
| Susan Cheek | Thomas A. Langford, III |
| Ann Marie Langford (Mrs. T. A.) | Melba Pifer Bartholomew (Mrs. Clarence) |
| Charles L. Chewning, Sr. | |
| R. R. Few | Lucille Shore Coburn |

Chairpersons have included:

| | |
|---|---|
| Arthur Kale | 1968-70 |
| R. L. Thompson | 1970-71 |
| W. E. Hammond | 1971-73 |
| Earl I. Brown | 1974-76 |
| Mary Whanger (Mrs. Alan D.) | 1976-80 |
| James Mentzer | 1981-82 |
| B. Maurice Ritchie | 1983-84 |
| Edith Toms (Mrs. E. S. Jr.) | 1985- |

The Council sets priorities for the life and work of the church. Excerpts from Mary Whanger's letters to Council members during her tenure include the following statements:

> How we long for this world to be more like God meant it to be . . . The council on Ministries is charged with planning how this shall be realized.
>
> You come to council meetings with a spirit of openness, cooperation, love and respect for each other and eagerness to get on with the Lord's work.
>
> All, working together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are necessary to the creative and effective functioning of the council in the life of Duke Memorial Church.
>
> Everyone is valued, and when a decision is made, the council works well together in implementing. It is this that makes being a member of the council satisfying as well as challenging . . . .

A special project was initiated in 1981. Jim Mentzer and Hoyle Eggleston were instrumental in starting a "Singles Again" group. This group provided opportunity for previously married people to find support and fellowship in a church setting. It has not continued but while it existed, it served a needed and useful service.

Among the very visible mission activities was the presence of special people among us. Their stories describe one dimension of the life of Duke Memorial. They are worth telling again.

In April 1983, United Methodist missionaries on leave from their work in Japan found a warm welcome at Duke Memorial. Bob and Hazel Terhune and their three children, Debra, Russell, and Kenneth, came to Durham because Debra needed the orthopedic care available at Duke University Medical Center. Florrie Mercer (Mrs. Charles H.) made the church aware of their need for a place to live. She and Shirley Few organized efforts to secure and furnish a house for the Terhunes. An important part of the church life, they remained in Durham until June, 1984 while Debra received treatment.

Duke Memorial was served well by the Terhunes. Hazel became Acting Director of Christian Education and Bob did church visitation. They both taught Sunday School classes and were active in all phases of church life. Their Christian witness is yet with the congregation as contact through letters, pictures, and prayers continues between the Terhunes in Japan and the church community here.

Tumani Nyajeka, an African student enrolled in Duke Divinity School, her husband Chaipa ("Ben") and their daughter Rungano also received assistance and support from members of Duke Memorial. Tumani has taught Sunday School classes, spoken to groups within the church, and increased awareness of life in Africa since she and her family came in 1983.

Work teams have also expressed the mission spirit.

In October of 1983, four members of our church joined with people from Trinity United Methodist Church to become the first volunteers in Missions work team to go to Dalvey, Jamaica. The Reverend Tom Faggart, Maxine Blair, Donna Elium, and Tim Langford helped begin a Methodist church building in Dalvey. Other work teams from the North Carolina Conference helped the Dalvey congregation to complete the structure. On December 15, 1985, Mary Whanger represented the North Carolina Conference Volunteers in Mission program in Jamaica for the dedication of the building.

In 1985, Donna Elium and Maureen Oakes participated in work teams in Costa Rica and Lois Funderburk helped to build a water reservoir in Antigua with a Western North Carolina Conference work team.

Church activity has ranged from foreign nations to local community. Missionaries, whose vision focuses on an area closer to home, support services such as the Community Life Center. Since its beginning in 1973, this center has ministered to older adults in Durham who need day care.

Among activities at home has been the athletic program of the church headed by Bob Cox. The program focused on basketball. Participation in the YMCA basketball program produced fine teams, especially the senior high

team of 1980 and the Biddy league champs of 1983. The "Y" program no longer has a church league so this program is now discontinued. During the years of most intense participation, the United Methodist Men held a yearly banquet for the players and their fathers. The trophies presented were provided by the Forrester and Hammond families and United Methodist Women. For families with children, especially boys, this was a significant opportunity for active engagement in a team sport.

Thomas S. Coble and Dr. Alan Whanger have, over many years, preserved special and ordinary church events through their photography. Both men have ability and interest in maintaining this record and they contribute to the documentary history of our church.

Another outreach activity has been Duke Memorial's participation in downtown Durham ministry. The Urban Ministries Center at 112 North Queen Street was dedicated on October 6, 1986. Duke Memorial is one of over 65 participating congregations. The Methodist Mission Society is responsible for stocking and dispensing clothing and food to those who come to the Urban Ministries Center for help. Over a quarter of a million dollars was contributed by individuals, foundations, and corporations to complete this facility that also houses the Community Kitchen, the Meals on Wheels, Durham Mission Society, and Women in Action. One large contribution to this fund was from Mrs. Dan (Virginia) Edwards. Tom Adkinson has been a key supporter in making our congregation aware of ways in which it can serve.

The Christmas offering in 1977 went to help two Granville County churches in need of repair. Volunteers worked in a summer project at Lyon Park sponsored by the Durham Recreation Department. Dr. Elizabeth Bookout (Mrs. C. G.) was a leader in finding people to serve.

Beginning in 1986, on every second Sunday, a collection of small jars of peanut butter and small bags of rice is contributed to the Durham Mission Society's food pantry. This was organized by Will Drake of the Social Concerns Committee. On May 11, a centennial offering was taken for the Durham Mission Society.

Alberta Poe Lane, long time member and retired public school librarian, has served the Margaret Faw Cannon Library with dedication and distinction.

She has been ably assisted by a committee that also renders valuable service as a resource to the ministers, teachers, and members of the church. The library is a learning center that is much used and appreciated for its order and efficiency.

## CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

For many people, church school classes serve as a critical tie to the church at large. These classes have undergone significant change in the past decade. The Anchor Class is now gone, members of the Homebuilders are aging, and the Bethany Fellowship Class was recently established.

The future growth of the Sunday school program is dependent on the number of regular volunteers who agree to teach. From the nursery to the Spence Class, this is a matter for concern. Nevertheless, a spirit of energy spurs many of our church school classes, especially our adult classes. This is reflected in a recent gift to the H. E. Spence Class.

Dr. W. Arthur Kale, long-time teacher of the H. E. Spence Bible Class, was honored by an anonymous gift of $5,000.00 to the class. This money is to be invested and the interest used for honoraria for teachers of the class. Dr. Kale continues as a substitute teacher, Daniel K. Edwards teaches for a part of each year, and occasionally the two men engage in a dialogue lesson. Dr. Cecil Robbins, The Reverend A. Morris Williams, The Reverend J. D. Young, and other persons have led the class. They most often use the Adult Bible Studies.

Hal O. Gurganous serves as class Fellowship Chairman. He visits shut-ins, sends cards and keeps in touch with members who are unable to be present on Sunday morning.

William W. Poythress has for many years been secretary of the class and faithfully continues this responsibility.

The classroom contains two memorials donated in the past ten years. A beautiful and sturdy teaching lecturn designed and built by J. Otis Kimrey displays a brass plaque that reads:

Dedicated To
Christian Teaching and Witness
In Honor Of
Dr. Hiram Earl Myers
August 27, 1978

In 1985, a handsome pulpit-sized Bible stand was given. The brass plaque is inscribed:

In Loving Memory Of
Carlyle Mortland
Whose Bequest Made
Possible Placing This
Bible Stand In The
H. E. Spence Classroom

Other adult classes reveal the same sort of continuing strength and contribution. Ruth Holsinger (Mrs. James W.) has taught the Minnie P. Gates Class for twenty-four years. They have 45 active and 13 associate members. This class studies the International Lesson series and other Methodist teaching materials. The members honor one another through acts of caring and contribute approximately $1200 each year to various mission and charitable organizations, including the Ronald McDonald House and the American Bible Society.

As she has since 1957, Mildred Darkis (Mrs. F. R.) continues to teach the R. N. Wilson Class and its faithful long-time members are devoted to her and to each other. They use the International Lesson series.

Doris Bridges is presently the teacher of the Katie Johnson Class. She replaced Rena Overton and faithfully ministers to the loyal remnant (8) of Duke Memorial's oldest continuing class. They follow the Adult Bible Studies.

The Early Bird Class has only six or seven members and serves the needs of women who sing in the Chancel Choir. They meet at 9:30 in order to be at choir rehearsal by 10:15. They choose their course of study and share in informal discussions of the material.

The Lillie Duke Class is composed of adult women from a cross section of Duke Memorial members. The present enrollment is approximately one hundred. It meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45 in an attractive and suitably furnished classroom on the same level as the sanctuary at the rear of the church.

This class began in 1914 and has a distinguished record as a major unit in the teaching ministry of Duke Memorial Church because it has supported the total work of the church. Dr. Elizabeth Bookhout, retired professor and former chair of the Physical Education Department of Duke University, is the fifth and current teacher. She is an inspiration to others in the class as she also leads them in the nurture of members who are unable, because of age or illness, to attend regularly.

Members of the Homebuilders Class who have been significant and regular teachers in the past ten years are The Reverend Dr. James H. Charlesworth, The Reverend Mr. Maurice B. Ritchie, and Dr. Alan Whanger. Other members of the class as well as guest teachers make for a varied and wide accommodation to the class interests, although Bible study has been the most frequent subject of study and discussion. Occasional social gatherings are hosted by members in their homes.

Mission involvement, fund raising, and social outings are three activities at which the Open Door Class excels. Begun in February of 1967 by Charles

Browning, Jack Cliff, and Rhodney Reade, Jr. the class has spent the past nineteen years living up to its name. Pete Curtis suggested that the class be called Open Door to affirm that the church, as well as the class, welcomes new members.

Their hospitality does not stop with class and church members, however. Each year the class provides Christmas for a local family. And for the Cambodian Seng family of six, they helped arrange living accommodations and jobs when the Sengs moved to the United States.

To raise money to support class projects, the Open Door class has sold wood that they have chopped, edited a cookbook, and sold Christmas cards. The largest yard sale in the history of Duke Memorial was organized in 1978 by class members who gave their earnings for the purchase of a church van.

Open Door members are eager to tell about their lively Sunday mornings under the leadership of Charles Hubbard, Bob Wallace, or Ed Hammond. Ask them about their picnics that feature fare too good to be described or about their trip down the Nantahala River for a weekend of river rafting.

It does not seem surprising that the Open Door class has contributed a large percentage of new members joining Duke Memorial over the past several years.

The membership of the Bethany Fellowship Class includes both single and married young adults. Their Sunday morning sessions have a Biblical focus with either members of the class or an invited guest serving as teachers. Quarterly they enjoy evening fellowship over covered-dish suppers and often take trips together. Approximately thirty-five members attend.

The Council on Ministries supported in 1986 a proposal by coordinators Nadine Hoover and Anita Shore to pay one sitter for infant nursery care from 9:30 to 12:30 each Sunday. It is hoped this will encourage church attendance. Changing life styles make it necessary to come to terms with a lack of volunteers in the church school program.

We mention these classes not only to record their present place in our church's life, but also to recall the faithful work of members and teachers, which is commendable, and to highlight the changing character of the congregation.

Duke Memorial is in a continual state of change. Established classes must continue; new classes must be formed. Tried ways give place to new efforts. Effective ways seek fresh expression. Church school is a crucial dimension in a painting of this church.

Other people have also provided leadership in our church. We simply list some of them.

Chairpersons of the Administrative Board:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1975-77 | William T. Coman |
| 1978-79 | Randolph R. Few |
| 1980-81 | Dr. W. E. Hammond |
| 1982-83 | Shirley Few (Mrs. R. R.) |
| 1984-85 | Dr. C. Fred Clark |
| 1986 | M. Laney Funderburk |

Superintendents of Church School:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1976 | W. E. Whitford |
| 1977-79 | Thomas H. McCauley |
| 1980 | Robert S. Weynand |
| 1981-85 | T. S. Coble, Jr. |
| 1986 | William B. Guyer |

Lay Leaders:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1977-78 | W. E. Hammond |
| 1978-79 | Thomas S. Coble, Jr. |
| 1980 | Eunice Mattox (Mrs. W. R.) |
| 1981 | Alfred B. Craig |
| 1982-83 | Devan Brown |
| 1984-85 | Shirley Few (Mrs. R. R.) |
| 1986 | A. B. Craig |

Vacation Church School has taken place each summer, with one exception, throughout this decade. In 1986, the theme is "The Market Place, 29 A.D." Linda Wilson (Mrs. W. A., Jr.) is the coordinator for third through sixth grade from 9:00 to 12:00 for one week. Linda Wilson has also helped to promote and guide Junior Church. Started in 1976, this program for children during the worship service includes Bible study and related activities.

## CONCLUSION

We have mentioned people, classes, movements, and groups. None of these can be easily captured; each is glanced only in passing. We have glimpsed some important leaders and contributors. But there are many, many more. As we attend church on Sunday morning, we realize how many people are faithful in their presence, their prayers, and their giving. These people are Duke Memorial's treasures; they keep the church alive and in mission. Recalling these particular people, we hope to remember the whole congregation and honor our fine members for the qualities of Christian life they express.

# Chapter VII

## *Celebrations of Age*

During this centennial year, a number of special occasions have taken place. Each has focused on the history of Duke Memorial and has added to our self-understanding and to a sense of our special purpose.

Wyatt T. Dixon, who died January 1, 1986, was the church historian for many years. In his weekly article in the *Durham Sun,* Duke Memorial was mentioned many times. His committee wrote "Ninety Years of Duke Memorial Church—1886-1976." Members of his committee included Mrs. S. J. Angier, Mrs. A. H. Borland, Mrs. Wyatt T. Dixon, Miss Anne Garrard, Irving Allen, Horace Mansfield, C. E. Phillips, Jr., and W. E. Whitford. In 1984, the chairman of the Administrative Board, Dr. C. Fred Clark, appointed a Centennial Committee and named Mr. and Mrs. William T. Coman as chairmen. Also named to the committee were Wyatt T. Dixon, honorary chairman, Thomas S. Coble, Miss Charlotte Corbin, Randolph Few, Laney Funderburk, Miss Anne Garrard, W. Arthur Kale, Thomas A. and Ann Marie Langford, Mrs. Ben Mixon. William E. Self, Mrs. Edgar Toms, and T. M. Faggart, Minister.

In 1985, W. T. Coman was named church historian. Later named to the Records and History Committee were T. S. Coble, Jr., Mrs. W. T. Coman, R. R. Few, Mrs. Wyatt T. Dixon, and Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Upchurch, Tim Langford, Arthur McDonald, III, and Miss Mary Hix. This committee is in the process of collecting and displaying memorabilia in the library and putting our church records in proper order.

### NATIONAL REGISTER

On Sunday, January 12, 1986, Duke Memorial was named to the National Register of Historic Places. Mr. and Mrs. William T. Coman had led the effort for the church to be so designated and the award was made during

a recognition service that involved Dr. William S. Price, Jr., Director of the Division of Archives and History of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources and Mrs. Betsy Buford from his department. The Comans and our minister, The Reverend Mr. T. M. Faggart, conducted the ceremony. The Reverend Dr. Thomas A. Langford preached for the occasion a sermon based on the Wesley window at the rear of the sanctuary. This recognition sets Duke Memorial apart as a place of special architectural beauty and significance.

## CENTENNIAL DINNER

In celebration of our centennial anniversary, we gathered on April 4, 1986, for a banquet served in Whitford Hall and an interesting presentation delivered by Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans (Mrs. James H.). This was a special and significant highlight of our year's activities. Betty Hodges described the occasion in the *Durham Morning Herald* (April 8, 1986).

> The evening started with a gourmet meal prepared under Polly Mixon's direction and served by candlelight by Ruth Holsinger's marvelously gracious and efficient hostesses, then moved into a slide show intertwining the lives of members of the Duke family with the history of the church that is 100 years old this year.

The decorations of flowers and candles were planned by Gloria Johnson, (Mrs. E. H.) Sarah McCracken, (Mrs. J. P.) Anne Clark, (Mrs. C. F.) and Ann Tyor (Mrs M. P.). Numerous volunteers and Assistant Church Hostess, Karen Robinette, helped decorate, and set tables for two hundred and fifty-five people. Church Hostess, Polly Mixon, was in charge of the meal and was assisted by her husband, Ben. Ruth Holsinger was in charge of the serving and Franklin Harrell was helpful with kitchen activities. Hilda Coble, President of the United Methodist Women, greeted people at the door.

Mrs. Seman's address was both historically informative and warmly presented. Deep family affection, a sense of the interrelation of the Duke family and Duke Memorial, and the relation of the church to Duke University were stressed. Of special note were comments about the role of women in the Duke family, the support of women in bringing Trinity College to Durham, and the encouragement of women in business as well as in educational and church affairs.

Other members of the Duke family were present: Newton Duke Angier of Oak Brook, IL, his son, Duke Angier, and his sister, Lyda Duke Angier of Flat Rock, NC, Henry Nicholson and his wife Miriam of Durham, and

Zalene Angier of Chapel Hill. Also present were The Reverend and Mrs. T. M. Faggart, The Reverend Ms. Ellen Metcalf, The Reverend and Mrs. Richard Haverly, The Reverend and Mrs. E. B. Fisher, the Reverend and Mrs. Virgil E. Queen, The Reverend and Mrs. Warren B. Petteway, The Reverend and Mrs. Robert L. Wallace, and The Reverend and Mrs. William A. Haddock, Jr.

This special occasion made the centennial celebration more concrete and consciously present.

## FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS

Sunday, April 13, 1986 was a day of recognition of those persons who have been members of Duke Memorial Church for fifty years or more. The ceremony took place during the morning worship service, honoring faithful members who filled the center section of the church.

Collating the list of people who had been members of this church for fifty years required painstaking work on the part of Oliver and Helen Upchurch. With scholarly perseverance, they checked rolls and archives. Their diligent effort has established the most definitive church roll we have had in recent years. Members of fifty years or more, listed below, were invited to the special occasion and were presented with a certificate of appreciation. (A star indicates attendance at the service on April 13, and a cross indicates those who were deceased in 1986.)

Louise Mason Adkins
†Herbert G. Andrews, Jr.
Lyda Duke Angier
Nell Page Atwater
†Marguerite Rogers Barton
Elizabeth Hooper Beel
*Sarah Margaret Brock Best
*Richard F. Boddie
*Byrd Petty Brinkley
*Neta May Brock
Mrs. L. W. Brown
Nina Rutledge Carroll
Thomas L. Cheek, Jr.
†Pearl Turrentine Cliff
*Lucille Cole
*William Thomas Coman
*Charlotte Corbin
*Margaret Elizabeth Craven
Bernice Crumpacker
Margaret Dixon Daniel
Minnie Gertrude Delamar
*Ellen Cheek Dozier
Gladys Duncan
W. Roy Edwards
Kendrick S. Few
*Randolph Reamey Few
Virginia King Funderburk
*Nellie Combs Garrard
*Thomas N. Graham
Inez Abernathy Hall
William Wesley Harris
Walter Harold Hayes

J. F. Herring
Ruth Eileen Hobgood
*Mrs. Thomas E. Allen, Jr.
John C. Angier III
*Zalene Allen Angier
*Melba Pifer Bartholomew
*Francis Dean Beard
*Mary Westbrook Berini
†Mrs. N. J. Boddie
Frances Boy
*Laura Preddy Brock
*Mrs. E. C. Brooks, Jr.
Herschel Amos Caldwell
*Lula Judith Cates
*Edna Hall Christmas
*Viola Faucette Coffin
*J. B. Cole
Kathleen Long Copelan
Mrs. Hoyle William Craig
Mrs. A. Louis Crumpacker
Louise Crumpacker
James Pleasant Davis
*Sallie Margaret Dennis
Kathleen L. Drane
Daniel K. Edwards
*Mrs. Spencer J. Ervin
Lyne S. Few
*Horace Ware Fowler
*Annie Walker Garrard
*John Glasson
*Hal O. Gurganous
*Grace H. Harris
Frances Henry Harvey
Mrs. Gene Nicholson Hecht
*Mary Elizabeth Hix
Holland Young Holton, Jr.
John Sylvester Hopkins
*John Stamey Huckabee, Jr.
*Gloria Hall Johnson
Mary Louise Jones
*Myra King
Mary Eleanor Krummel
*John Riley Lawrence
Mrs. Albert A. Long
John R. Love, Jr.
Ciblon H. Martin
*William R. Mattox
Mildred H. McGhee
*Gertrude Elizabeth Merritt
Mrs. David H. Parks
*Robert T. A. Pifer
*Margaret Prince
Mrs. F. J. Rigsbee
Woodrow Fleming Russell
Mrs. John H. Shields
Lois Vinson Smith
Mrs. Royal Wright Smith
*Marshall T. Spears, Jr.
*Agnes Wilson Stephenson
*Maggie Beatrice Suggs
Evelyn Knight Taverna
*Robert Dillard Teer
E. S. "Buddy" Thompson
*Mrs. Sidney B. Turner
*Helen Card Upchurch
*Leila Taylor Veasey
*Annie Wheeler
John F. Williams, Jr.
Lina Wilson Williamson
Mrs. J. W. Yandle
Norman W. Horton
*Olive Faucette Jenkins
C. J. Jones
*Mrs. Charles E. Jordan
Mrs. Alton J. Knight
*Lottie Riley Lawrence

William Harris Lawson
Russell Long
Julia S. Manning
*Eunice H. Mattox
*Thomas Henry McCauley, Jr.
Helen Dickson McKee
Mary Hooper Neu
*James Andrew Phelps
Hazel Jeffreys Pittman
*Rhodney Bailey Reade
Robert Moore Russell
*Mabel Brown Shears
*Lester A. Smith
*Norman Reid Smith
*Estelle Flowers Spears
Minnie Weisner Moore Speight
Mrs. Lacy Vestal Strayhorn
Mrs. Marshall C. Sutherland, Sr.
H. C. Taylor
Frances Thomas
Mrs. Norfleet W. Thompson
*Alda Crump Turrentine
*Walter M. Upchurch, Jr.
Elsie Harris Wentworth
*Edna Robinson Whitaker
Warren S. Williams
*Elizabeth Wilson

## CENTENNIAL SERVICE

The momentum of remembrance increased in the spring with the official centennial celebration on May 4. The Reverend Mr. T. M. Faggart presided and the Durham District Superintendent, The Reverend Dr. Wallace H. Kirby, delivered the sermon. During the service, Dr. W. Arthur Kale presented to the congregation the photographic essay he had written about the church windows, *Guardians of Worship,* to Mr. R. Dillard Teer, who with his family had sponsored the publication. A copy of this handsome booklet has been provided to each church family. The work of the Centennial Committee and its chairs Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Coman was recognized. Representatives of other United Methodist Churches in Durham joined us for the day.

The sermon for the morning was on the meaning of the church with special emphasis on the personal values Dr. Kirby has found in his experience in the church. The sermon was positive, hopeful, and encouraging. His theme was: The church is important because God has and will use this body of Christians to support and challenge each of us in the church. The anthem for the morning, "Rejoice Ye Pure In Heart," by Richard Dirksen conveyed the day's message:

Still lift your standard high,
Still march in firm array,
As warriors through the darkness toil
Till dawns the golden day.

. . .

Then on, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your King.

## THE BISHOP'S VISIT

The culmination of events recorded here was the visit of Bishop C. P. Minnick on Sunday, May 11, 1986. This central event in our year of celebration was combined with Homecoming and dinner on the ground. The Bishop's visit represented the point of transition from reflection on the past to a clearing of vision about the future. The first one hundred years is a preamble to what lies ahead.

The morning service was inspiring with the Festival Brass Ensemble playing four pieces for the prelude and the anthem by Johannes Brahms, "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place." "A Centennial Litany" blessed the morning.

Minister: For those who met to decide the feasibility of establishing this congregation 100 years ago . . . Washington Duke, B. N. Duke, J. E. Lyon, J. S. Lockhart, G. W. Burch, Albert Wilkerson, and S. A. Thaxton.

People: We give thanks, O Lord.

Minister: For the Evangelical spirit which called out to the masses of Durham and the nurturing concern our forebearers expressed in your name.

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Minister: For the creativity that gave birth to buildings beautiful in form and function.

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

minister: For Leaders of the present who can ascertain the strengths and weaknesses of the past and know what to leave behind, and what to keep for the future.

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Minister: Give us Grace, O Lord, that we may so order our lives that future generations may be able to find foundations left by us upon which they can build an even greater church to your honor and glory; that persons may be baptized into the faith; that Holy sacrament may be celebrated, and the word rightly preached and your influence spread.

All: We ask these things in the Name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

The scripture reading of the suffering servant song from Isaiah 53 prepared the congregation for the Bishop's sermon on the servant church that vicariously gives itself for others, especially to those in need. Specifically mentioned were issues of war, peace, justice, and redemption. Such servant service, even when it results in suffering, issues in hope. God's gracious sovereignty is faithful and ultimately victorious.

During the service, a bronze plaque, to be permanently placed in the narthex, was presented to the church by Mr. and Mrs. William T. Coman and was accepted by Mr. M. Laney Funderburk, Jr., Chairman of the Administrative Board.

Afterwards, Homecoming was festive with clusters of balloons tied to the chairs placed on the lawn. An abundance of food brought by members and visitors was arranged by the Open Door and Bethany Fellowship classes. Perfect picnic weather enhanced the visiting, conversations, good eating, and friendly fellowship.

The centennial year will be brought to a special climax in a Spiritual Renewal gathering with The Reverend Dr. A. Purnell Bailey returning to preach for three days in September. He also preached at Duke Memorial for special services in 1977. This event will be sponsored by the Council on Ministries as its participation in the Centennial program.

## CONCLUSION

Our centennial celebration has been a special period at Duke Memorial. It has provided a time of remembrance and an opportunity to draw together our past and our present. It is also a time for increasing our appreciation of those who have made this church a place of worship and growth, of friendship and caring, of service and vision. This year also calls us to look ahead and prepare for our future. Remembering all that we have been we are setting our goals for all that we should be. A centennial year is a time of commemoration and a time of new beginning.

# Chapter VIII

## *Centennial as Commencement*

We have depicted the most recent decade in our church's life. A hundred years have passed. We have arrived at a hinge in our history.

Our past and future were brought into sharp focus by a former Minister of Education, The Reverend Mr. E. Clifford Shoaf, on January 28, 1986. Cliff surveyed the beginnings of our church and applied his finding to the future. His words are worth hearing again.

> To sharpen our review, I shall reflect about this past and its contribution to our future by identifying four themes clearly revealed in our heritage and applying them to possibilities for our future. These four characteristics are: 1. A commitment to molding Christian character in the city of Durham, and to applying the teaching of Christ to the needs of the day. 2. It had an open receptivity to new members from all walks of life; that is, there was an acceptance of diversity in social and personal backgrounds gathered and united in a common loyalty to the saving and strengthening power of Jesus Christ manifested in this church's past. 3. It reached out and touched lives in a caring and redemptive way, providing a genuine fellowship of nurturing concern for members and constituents. 4. It actively contributed to the needs of the poor, the dispossessed, the downtrodden . . .
>
> That's Duke Memorial's legacy! Now, let's apply this lesson from the past to our future. The future of the city of Durham is again bright with growth and expansion—much like 1885. New people, new industry, new potential for erecting a better community. And there is that same need as in 1885 to assimilate the new citizens into the Christian community—in short to continue their growth and development in Christian character. And I believe this future contains that universal hunger for spiritual nurture which was revealed in 1885.

We have been reminded of our remarkable past. We remember times of trial and struggle. With our centennial, we have reached an important land-

mark. The road from our past bends towards our future. What lies beyond the bend?

*Challenge*. Maturity brings challenge. The city of Durham has changed. Residential patterns have shifted, neighborhoods have been in transition, members have moved. Duke Memorial serves a parish without clear boundaries. As Durham has altered, the configurations of our congregation have been reshaped. Few members, indeed very few people, live close enough to walk to our church. We are a commuter church, a church that cannot attract by geographical convenience. Quality of worship, preaching, program, and service are the magnetic forces that must draw people to Duke Memorial.

Our future is not secure. We shall , in some sense, survive. But the issue is: shall we survive well? Shall we continue to be a significant witness in the life of Durham? Can we serve the total life of our people and community? This is our challenge.

*Community*. If Duke Memorial is to meet this challenge, it must do so in concert. We shall move toward our goals only as we do so together: "All one body we." So we sing and so we must be if we are to reach out in mission.

Yet the finding of community and living as a community is extremely difficult in contemporary North America. Our social patterns have gravitated toward individualism and personal isolation; we have lost a strong sense of shared life in ordinary existence. As difficult as it is, discovering a common life and sharing our community with others are essential characteristics of a living church.

*Commitment*. Whatever lies ahead, we shall meet it ably if we are thoroughly committed to God and to our neighbor. We repeat an obvious truth: the challenges we face and the community we seek will be engaged vigorously as we renew our Christian commitment.

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church has lived for one hundred years because of God's grace and because of Christians who responded with commitment. Duke Memorial will continue to live because God's grace is sure and as succeeding generations commit their lives, their love, their resources, their prayers, and their service.

## A PORTRAIT

A portrait captures a resemblance only at a particular time. It does not portray the whole truth over extended time, and it may not reveal the whole truth at any one time. But a good portrait brings to surface a person's or an institution's character, how they appear at this time, how they have aged, and what their poise and intentions make evident. Our portrait of Duke

Memorial is an effort to depict the character of this congregation as it now reveals itself.

A portrait creates a memory. It also projects a future. Who we are shapes who we shall be. We paint this portrayal of Duke Memorial to encourage her members to new dedication for worship and service.

**DATE DUE**

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